

Since assuming the International Presidency and CEO role in 2018, Dr. Glover has led our Sorors powerfully to sustain us through the pandemic, and raised our voices on critical issues like Voting Rights and Black Maternal Health—ensuring that Sorors of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated are the VOICE of the movement, not the ECHO. Dr. Glover's Alpha Kappa Alpha Congressional Women's Roundtable continues to lead the charge toward solutions to create a better world for future generations by fighting for continued, meaningful investments in HBCUs, a comprehensive approach to ending the maternal health crisis in America, and protecting our democracy through safeguarding and expanding voting rights.

Dr. Glover has convened meetings with our Soror, Vice-President KAMALA HARRIS, to bring our community's needs to the highest level of our government, and is the Vice-Chair of President Joe Biden's HBCU Advisory Board.

I and every Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Soror, am indebted to Dr. Glover for her service to our Sorority. She is a living pillar of Black Excellence, and her leadership has and continues to lift up successive generations of Black leaders. As we celebrate her enduring legacy, her enriching sisterhood, and her exemplary service, let's remember the purpose that has animated her to succeed and to bring her community up with her.

HONORING THE CAREER OF LEE A. LUFT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2022

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary career of a dedicated and highly impactful public servant in the State of Connecticut and the U.S. Coast Guard, Information Technology Specialist, Mr. Lee Luft. After nearly 43 years of diligent service in the U.S. Coast Guard, Lee retired on March 1, 2022. His retirement is to be honored at the United States Coast Guard Academy Officer's Club on August 12, 2022.

Born and raised in Connecticut, Lee graduated from Wilcox Regional Vocational Technical High School in 1976, certified as an electrician. Lee continued his studies in that trade at Hartford State Technical College in 1979, graduating with an Associate in Science Degree in Electronics and Technology. That same year, Lee changed career paths and pursued a new vocation, joining the U.S. Coast Guard's Research and Development Center (RDC) as a Digital Computer Maintenance Worker. For those who are not familiar with the center, it is the hub of Coast Guard operational analysis and mission execution solutions, located in the Fort Trumbull section of New London, Connecticut. The center is responsible for testing and evaluation in all the mission areas of the Coast Guard, including maritime law enforcement, environmental protection, and national defense preparedness, to name a few. During Lee's tenure, the work of the R and D Center was constantly evolving, as the mission requirements of the Coast Guard changed. The 9–11 attack on our homeland, the rising challenges of climate change, the increase in human trafficking and

drug smuggling at sea all occurred on Lee's watch. Like the entire team at the center, Lee was deeply involved in the Coast Guard's need to competently respond to new roles which hinged on highly functional information systems—his area of expertise. He remained at the RDC for a total of more than 39 years, advancing all the way to the role of Information Technology Specialist by the early 2000s. As a reflection of his ambitious nature and desire to improve his skill, it is also worth noting that Lee completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from the University of New Haven in 1999.

Lee's service extended to several other sections of the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG). From RDC he transitioned to USCG Command Control, Communications, Computers, and Information Technology (C4IT) Service Center Business Operations Division. He was later reassigned to C5ISC and specialized in Architecture and Engineering Standards. Lee was known to not back down from a challenge while at the Coast Guard, including the several opportunities he took up to represent both the Coast Guard and our Nation as Technical Delegate for the United States National Committee of the International Electrotechnical Commission in many places in and out of the country over his career.

As someone who began their career with an electrician apprenticeship, Lee has moved up the ranks to become a nationally and internationally recognized presence, representing the United States on shipboard network standardization and communication protocols used by all types of Marine Electronic Equipment. Lee has been a significant player in the development of the USCG Nationwide Differential GPS (NDGPS), as well as a principal in the design and development of the USCG Nationwide AIS Client/Server architecture, and all AIS interface and network protocols. He has been bestowed several awards for his innovative research, including the Hammer Award from former Vice President Gore for his role in the development of the Differential Global Positioning System and a Civilian Service Commendation Medal for his work at the Coast Guard RDC between 1979 and 2018.

Madam Speaker, Lee's contributions to the U.S. Coast Guard and the effectiveness of our Nation's strategic communications are immeasurable. His life's work is clearly deserving of an equal amount of gratitude. His life and career, dedicated to public service, exist as an inspiration to those who follow in his footsteps. Although his retirement from the U.S. Coast Guard undoubtedly leaves large shoes to fill, we are grateful that the U.S. Coast Guard will continue to receive his support in retirement. To these ends, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring, thanking, and commending Lee Luft for his successful commitment to the public well-being and safety by immortalizing his career through the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CELEBRATING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRAIRIE DU ROCHER, ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2022

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 300th anniversary of Prairie du Rocher, Illinois.

Three centuries ago, French settlers established roots along the Mississippi River, where an open prairie stretched from near the river's edge to tall limestone bluffs.

They called the settlement Prairie du Rocher—"Prairie of the Rock." It once represented the western boundary of the United States; and it still stands as one of the finest historical and architectural examples of French Colonial Heritage in the United States.

Here they tilled the soil and built their homes, caring for their families, their community, and their land. Traditions, celebrations, and their social fabric have held fast to this day. In its tricentennial year, Prairie du Rocher seeks to preserve the historical significance of this city. In such a fast-moving, ever-changing world, it's more important than ever that we treasure such a unique past, as it moves forward in today's world.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating 300 years of Prairie du Rocher. May there be many, many more.

RECOGNIZING THE 2022 HIGH PLAINS HONOR FLIGHT

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2022

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of America's heroic veterans and to recognize the Honor Flight Network, which conducts annual trips for veterans to Washington, D.C., to tour the memorials built in celebration of their bravery. On May 15, 2022, High Plains Honor Flight gave many of our courageous veterans this extraordinary opportunity, flying them to our Nation's capitol. I am pleased to congratulate the May 15, 2022, High Plains Honor Flight and to acknowledge the World War II, Korean war, Vietnam war, and Gulf war veterans of Colorado who took part in it.

Madam Speaker, those who participated in this flight are as follows:

World War II Veterans: Frank Marsaglia and Willis Renter.

Korean war veterans: Frederick Ames, Marion Anderson, James Avgares, Harry Bieber, Eugene Bott, Myron House, Bernard Molley, Rudy Romero, Rupert Ross, Stanley Singer, Albert Vigil, Norman Vissering, and Kenneth Yarberry.

Veteran of both the Korean & Vietnam wars: James Coats.

Vietnam war veterans: James Aschenbrener, Michael Bagley, George Baker, Donald Bauer, Vernon Bauer, Robert Beers, Johnnie Bellington, Gerald Bragg, Kermit Bratten, Charles Breneman, Frank Brooks, Michael Brouwer, Keith Burner, Bruce Chandler, Monserrato Conder, Jr, Jackie Crow, Gary Davis, Barry Dibble, Walter Diehl, Rodney